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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

3/PreA  
12203

Applicant: Dennis Bushmitch : Art Unit: 2151  
Serial No.: 09/822,042 : Examiner:  
Filed: March 30, 2001 :  
For: DATA SEQUENCING METHOD TO :  
IMPROVE TRANSMISSION OF SELF-  
SIMILAR DATA IN A MULTI-NODE  
NETWORK

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 09 2003**

**Technology Center 2100**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

S I R :

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraphs [0006] and [0007] with the following amended paragraphs:

**[0006]** The present invention is embodied in a scheduling method for data in a digital communication network that improves transmission by breaking up self-similarities in the data while preserving local order. The scheduling method reorders individual blocks of data in a macro-block while preserving the order of the data in each block. An exemplary embodiment of this method contains several steps. The first step is to define the data in terms of macro-blocks, each macro-block including a plurality of blocks. The blocks of a macro-block are reordered to substantially reduce the self-similarity of the data in the macro-block. The reordered blocks are then transmitted through the network, and reordered again at the other side to recreate the macro-block.

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